

VHE PO-AHONT--S TIMES

Postal Office at Marlinton

Vol. 1, No. 1, as second class matter

CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1864

terey, Bartow, Runt... Ind...

place which was a small camp and supply point known as Cheat Mountain Pass ten miles west of the summit of the northern base of Cheat

back to Camp Bartow. Kitchell says that the result of the battle in the woods were literally covered with the baggage, boxes, haversacks, and other articles abandoned by the enemy.

Cliff War... tious... with the... Both sides...

the Point Mountain pick-off... Seneca Trail and then Federal forces...

legions down the valley... federal works and take West Virginia into the confederacy.

It is no wonder that Col. John A. Logan... down by the mouth of Elkwater with a squad of men...

defensive... army from... That is the reason... summer months...

West Virginia... Virginia... the war... June 16, 1861...

The Confederate army... the Cheat Mountain... the wood to...

se, ruh, until so close that he was shot and killed... Col. Runt was ordered out of Cheat Mountain...

Rorime... the railroad... The road from... Elkwater...

And about this time... the Cheat Mountain... the telegraph wire...

General Helmold... the Cheat Mountain... the Cheat Mountain...

In the meantime... the Cheat Mountain... the Cheat Mountain...

distance to the deeper waters of Elkwater...

the Cheat Mountain... the Cheat Mountain...

the Cheat Mountain... the Cheat Mountain...

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Middle Mountain. So Lee's orders to advance dated September 9, 1864, were in force until September 14, when Lee called them back and said

goodby. Farm For Sale I will sell or rent 104 acres of land two miles from Durbin, one mile to class A road, one half mile to post-office. Over one third of land improved; rest in young chestnut timber. Has large improved orchard. Farm well watered. Suitable for farming and well situated for grazing purposes. Addressing government land. If interested write to...

For Sale Silver...





# THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

Entered at the Postoffice at Marlinton, W. Va., as second class matter

CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 1927

The battle of Elkwater was the Civil War battle that was never fought. There was some slaughter but both sides drew back without going on with the great conflict that was staged. Both sides were on the defensive. The federal forces were dug in in Tygart's Valley, Randolph county, below the mouth of the considerable creek called Elkwater, for the purpose of holding the confederates from marching into the northwestern part of West Virginia, and the confederates were entrenched on Middle Mountain to hold the federal army from reaching the vital Marlinton, Intersville, and Warm Springs, and taking possession of the Virginia Central Railroad at Millboro. That is the reason that both sides were engaged in a defensive posture for eight weeks during the summer months of 1861.

Robert E. Lee, to the end of the war, was more as a defensive strategist than he did in his offensive movements. In this he was the antithesis of Stonewall Jackson who came down on them like a wolf in the fold. Note Lee's failure to the

terey, Bartow, Huntersville, and Marlinton, were called the Northwestern Army, and General Loring was placed in command of this army by an order from General Lee dated July 20th. This was the officer who had outranked Robert E. Lee but who took his orders from Lee. But it was not long until Lee himself came to the mountains and took over the command. He arrived at Valley Mountain August 8th, and from that time to September 14th, that was the headquarters of the forces that were traveling with Lee from Richmond to the High Slog.

Here is a list of the headquarters of the army during the winter of 1861. Lee was at Valley Mountain from August 8 to August 15, at Meadow Bluff on September 15, and at Sewell Mountain, on October 20. In 1861, all of Robert E. Lee's activities in camp were confined to West Virginia, the time being spent at Rétémont.

At Claringsburg, West Virginia, lawyer William was willing to advise the war department from the federal side. Jobo S. Garille on August 15, 1861, wrote to Simeon Olmerson; secretary of war, in order to send more troops and to order general to command them or they would be withdrawn in ten days. That four confederate armies were marching out the northwest by Mingo Flats, and that the Mirigo Flats road was not guarded. Here was the original Godsker about whom we heard so much about in the World War. He was smiling about the

place where Supply point main Pass Mountain, afternoon with this: On the half way camp town of point that the Poin

Seneca had been guard at The corner was about after a battle at Valley and the Atoog drive? both

Delaware county town the wooded stream town to the 98 & censtrier Lee so the base the wood tilla, w These r came to pike to cut the two re

... had won these and it made him commander in chief, so he went

And about this time another de-

brécar

... battle lines, and left General

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... oeen

... on to Kanawha.

... or one hundred and eighty men, and that as all of them had worn to work

... So Friday

... and south. From Marlinton it is more or less up hill for every mile until it tops Elk

... of their best remnants, line res might return to their tops. These eighty men were familiar with

... army

Mountain, then it descends a short distance to the upper waters of Elk River and follows the Old Field Fork down for about nine miles to the forks, crossing Slaty Fork near its mouth, there to the Big Spring or Elk Fork. The path follows the stream to the post-office at Middle Mountain, and then continues northward

... the county, and we take to "snuff" enemy from the hills and bushes." So the mountain armies filled the passes and valleys during the first part of the week of August and the first part of September. In the federal camp at Big Water were the companies from Indiana who were in gray uniform and these men mingled with

... pear

... between ... 11000, pp ... Pocahontas County, and thence ... miles to the Elkwater fort.

... and had a skirmish at four o'clock in the morning on the 9th in which

... str

... was an important part of the ... under the internal improvement schemes that Virginia had engaged in so heavily for thirty-odd years

... they repudiated ... advance would take place that day and they fell back with the new ... And it is now seen that Lee made a

... a

... immediately prior to the war. The country is, and was at that time nearly all cleared and the road lined with fine farms between Marlinton and Elkwater

... general order to advance dated September 9. A few weeks ago I had a chapter on the way the confederate forces got lost in the Cheat River jungles about ... thereby prevented

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Robert E. Lee, the son of the war, showed more as a defensive strategy.

movements. In this he was the antithesis of Stonewall Jackson who came down on them like a wolf in the fold. Not a Lee's fault.

And about this time another order was brought to light. It was

Elkwater, while General Rosecrans marched on to Kanawha.

Seneca Trail, now called the Seneca Trail is lost due north and south. From Marlinton it is more or less a straight line seven miles until it turns off to the east. Then it descends a short distance to the upper waters of Elkwater and follows the Old Field Fork for about nine miles to the crossing Slaty Fork near its

Barlow, Huntersville and Marlinton, were called the North-Western Army. General Loring was placed in command of this army by an order from General Lee dated July 20th. This was the officer who had outwitted Robert E. Lee but who took the orders from Lee. It was not until Lee himself came to the mountains and took over the command. He arrived at Valley Mountain August 8th, and from that time to September 11th, he was the headquarters of the Force, that title traveling with Lee from Richmond to the Blue Springs. There is a list of the headquarters in West Virginia during the winter of 1861. Lee was at Valley Mountain from August 8 to September 21; and at Sewell Mountain, on October 24. During 1861 all of Robert E. Lee's headquarters in camp were located to West Virginia, the rest of the time being spent at Richmond.

At Charleston was another West Virginia lawyer who was willing to

federal side. John S. Carlisle on August 15, 1861, wrote to Simeon Cam

for the sake to send more troops and a general to command there or they would

be whipped in ten days. That Tour the confederate armies were marching

and that the Mingo Flats road was not guarded. Here was the original Good's Gap, which was the original

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recruited home guards to the number of one hundred and eighty men, and

that as all of them had corn to work, he had agreed that if they left eighty of their best riflemen that the rest might return to their crops. These eighty riflemen were familiar with the country and were to "annoy the enemy from the hills and bushes." So the riflemen filled the passes in the mountains and other

place which was a small camp and supply point known as Cheat Mountain Pass ten miles west of the summit at the northern base of Cheat Mountain, and the skirmish in the afternoon of the 12th, interfered with this movement.

On the 12th the big army of General Lee moved forward. About half way between the Valley Mountain camp and Elkwater Fort, it turned on to Valley Head. This is the Point Mountain pike, which is the Seneca Trail and the federal army had been maintaining an advanced guard at that place.

was about noon the federal army, after a battle at the forks of the road at Valley Head, the federal army had the confederates did not advance

river bottom the land was cleared but between that strip of settled country and the great Cheat Mountain

there is a real stretch of broken woods now down from Cheat Mountain to the Valley River. Some of these are small runs and others

considerable creeks. At Valley Head Lee sent three regiments north along the base of Cheat mountain through

the woods to join the flanking army. These regiments marched all day and came to the Staunton & Parkersburg pike to the west of the Summit.

cut the telegraph wire between

fall on the 12th, that he was in a precarious position. Both roads to the Summit camp were in need

train loaded for supplies for the Summit camp and which were needed, had no chance to get there

So about three in the morning of Friday, the Thirteenth, he sent an army to open up the wagon road and another army to open the bridge. As a matter of fact, it would appear that the confederates had about fifty five hundred men in the area around Cheat Summit and that they were literally scattered all

Robert E. Lee to the end of the war shone more as a defensive strategist than he did in his offensive movements. In this he was the epitome of Stonewall Jackson who came down on them like a wolf in the fold. Note Lee's failure in the Gettysburg campaign.

The federal forces were flustered with the victories at Phillipi, Bull Mountain and Carriger's Ford. McClellan had won these and then made him commander in chief, so he went to Washington to take charge of the far western battalions, and left General Reynolds to make a fortified camp at Elkwater, while General Rosecrans marched on to Kanawha.

The road from Marlinton to Elkwater, now called the Sebeca Trail is almost due north and south. From Marlinton it is more or less up hill or seven miles up the top of Elkwater Mountain. The distance to the upper waters of the river and follows the Old Field Fork down for about nine miles to the forks, crossing Slaty Fork near its mouth, there to the Blaine Spring Fork. The pike follows this stream. The possession line is four miles, and the mountain two miles, then a head of a hollow about a mile to the top of Valley Mountain, line between Randolph County and Putnam. It is about ten miles to the Elkwater fort. This was an important pike at the beginning of the Civil War, being one of the Commonwealth's highways. It was the only road that Virginia had engaged in for the first time in years. It was built prior to the war. It was built, and was at that time nearly all cleared and the road

confederate armies were marching on the northwest by Mingo Flats, the Mingo Flats road was guarded. Here was the original God's Aker about whom we heard so much about in the World War. He was mistaken about the Mingo Flats road not being a trail for the Elkwater Fort, as it is for a very purpose.

And about this time another element was brought to light. It was a bushwhacker. In a letter dated July 19, 1861, General F. R. Jackson wrote to headquarters that he had recruited horse guards to the number of one hundred and twenty men, and that as all of them had corn to work, he had agreed that if they left eighty of them they might return to their crops. These elgbuy riflemen were familiar with the country and were an enemy from the hills and bushes.

So the mountain armies filled the passes and watched each other during the weeks of August and the first of September. In the federal camp at Elkwater were two companies Irem Iridana who were in gray uniforms. In their big camp at Valley Mountain. On Sunday the 8th of September a scouting party got as far as Mingo from the Elkwater. In the morning of the 9th in which they reported having killed fifteen secessionists and wounded as many more. And they learned that a general advance was in the pipe line that day and they fell back with the news. An order to advance dated September 9.

that was to cross from Bartow. These regiments marched all day and came to the Staunton & Parkersburg pike to the west of the Summit. They cut the telegraph wire between two federal camps. And effected a junction with part of the Bartow troops.

General Reynolds found by a trail on the 12th that the position was precarious. Both roads to the Summit camp were in possession of the enemy. The wagon train had been captured, and his own wagon train loaded for supplies for the Summit camp and which were needed, had no chance to get to it.

So about three to the morning of Friday, the thirteenth, he sent an army to open up the wagon road and another army to open the bridge.

As a matter of tact, it would be better that the confederates had fifty-five hundred men in the area around Cheat Summit and they were literally scattered all over the rugged country like a flock of sheep that had lost their shepherd. The second night in bad weather there was no way to form a force of men. In the morning those Indiana boys who had been loafing there all summer and who knew every trout up the river given name, were told to get the strangers out of there, and on Friday, the 14th they commenced to hunt the confederates. About this time the confederates appeared on the plain a mile east of the summit rounded a picket post and killed.

Learned that a whip was sent to the west.

Elkwater. These troops were from the army at Bartow and they were to

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July 11, 12, and 13, 1861, the news had just time to spread

general rejoicing on July 21st, the confederates won a big battle at Bull Mountain. This convinced the north that there was serious trouble ahead.

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and were being driven

The war on army had won significant victories in Randolph and Tucker counties July 11, 12, and 13, 1861, and the news had just time to spread over the nation for a general rejoicing, when on July 21st, the confederates won a big battle at Bull Run and convinced the north that there was serious trouble ahead.

Some one in command in the north had to get the war going. He arranged to hold the Cheat Mountain and bank at Elkwater is still to be noticed. So it is not surprising to find an order to the effect that this was to be an extra big barrier, as well as the one on Cheat Mountain. That is evidence enough that the

pass through the laurel and the hobbled in the night time to the south of the camp at Cheat Summit and that after much suffering and many hardships they came straggling back defeated, weary and discouraged.

The left of the Federal line found out something more about that last night. They attempted to go through the wilderness on the night of the 11th of September. None of the pickets or sentinels of the Federal camp on the mountain knew of any such movement was taking place. This is conclusive that they did not find out until the morning there were parts of three regiments which had passed by the camp and gotten to the rear, for early that morning the 12th, three army wagons started from Cheat Summit, for supplies, and they rolled into the confederate army about a mile west of the encampment and were captured. 1,015 confederate soldiers on the picket west and to the rear of the confederates were estimated to be twenty-five hundred men. They took the horses and men and disappeared in thick woods.

confederates were working out towards the Greenbrier River, with the commander at the Summit sent some companies of soldiers east over the pike and had them line Cheat River above the bridge, and a battle was fought on that river about two miles above that bridge at a point near where the Cheat Mountain Clubhouse now stands.

The confederate reports are misleading, as they are sure that all the regiments, both from Valley Mountain and from Camp Bartow had been rounded up and were being driven toward the Greenbrier, and that when they were stopped by three hundred men at some point on the river near the clubhouse, that the confederates numbered in the 90's.

The Federal's did not propose to advance any farther into the enemy's country. They had won in the northern part of West Virginia and concentrate on driving the confederates out of the Kanawha Valley.

From this time on the skirmishing in the blue-forests of Cheat assumed the character of Indian fighting. Later in the day a company of Indiana troops caught sight of some confederates four miles west of the camp at the summit and had a battle with them. The Federal troops remaining in the road and the confederates disappearing to the timber.

Camp Bartow had been rounded up and were being driven toward the Greenbrier, and that when they were stopped by three hundred men at some point on the river near the clubhouse, that the confederates numbered in the 90's. The 90 men were driven back into the wilderness and it was not until about ten o'clock that night that they got

Ricoold's made the tort at Elkwater, the 11th of the Federal. Iridi ana regtment, made the one at Cheat Summit generally referred to as White Top, where a map by the name of White Jived. The Cheat Summit camp was on the Staunton & Parkersburg' turnpike and this road ran south east from Huttons-ville, gradually leaving the pike from that place to Marlinton. Cheat summit is almost due east from Elkwater while the camp was and a trail led down the mountain making a short cut seven miles long between the two places. The wagon roads around by Huttons-ville between the camps covered a distance of eighteen miles.

It now appears that the Federal troops had been camped in the dense active young soldiers had nothing better to do than to become thorough hunters. Few of them had ever seen a mountain or a forest roamed in the mountains hunting and fishing and having as good a time as they could under the circumstances, and in the battle in the woods they had the soldiers who had come from Arkansas and other southern states at a great disadvantage.

# Money to Loan

At 5 1-4 Per

The Federal Land Bank of Baltimore County National Farm Loan Association farmers on agricultural land at 5 1-4 per cent semi-annually. The loan may be repaid in 10 years, with the right to the borrower to renew the note. The borrower is a stockholder on his loan.

This is the only co-operative profit sharing organization in the United States for farmers and it was organized under the direction of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

If interested, call on or write

These camps were formed on or about the 1st of July. The first troops of the confederates to be seen in the Valley Mountain and Middle Mountain was the result of a "Sport" made by William Skeen, an

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# POTOMAC STATE

Kaiser

Summer Session opens Tuesday for a term of

While this term is intended of high quality for Temporary and Short Subjects will be offered in addition to the regular course.

Splendid Faculty. Ideal dormitories. Reasonable rates. For special bulletin.

Frank M

of Huntersville, who furnished a map of the country and a Central Railway was exposed to an attack at Marlboro as much as it was at Staunton and much less than to Staunton.

In the meantime troops had been moving into Staunton from all over the north and west. The information furnished by Skeen was seized on immediately by Robert E. Lee at Richmond, and he had a good deal of trouble getting the officers at Staunton to cease to send troops by

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McNEEL & McLAUGHLIN



And about this time another de-  
fender was brought to light. It was  
a bushwhacker. By a letter dated  
July 19, 1861, General H. R. Jackson  
wrote to headquarters that he had  
recruited home guards to the number  
of one hundred and eighty men, and  
that as all of them had corn to work,  
he had agreed that if they left eighty  
of their best riflemen that the rest  
might return to their crops. These  
eighty riflemen were familiar with  
the country and were to "annoy the  
enemy from the hills and bushes."  
So the mounted rangers killed the  
asses and watched each other all  
the weeks of August and the first  
part of September. In the federal  
camp at Elkwater were two compa-  
nies from Indiana who were in gray  
uniform and these men mingled with  
the confederates in their big camp at  
Elkwater. On Sunday the 9th of  
September a scouting party  
as far as Mingo from the Elkwa-  
ter and had a skirmish at four o'clock  
the morning of the 9th. John Wil-  
son reported having killed fifteen  
rebels and wounded as many  
more. And they learned that a gen-  
eral was to take place that  
day and they all went back to the home-

It is now seen that Lee made a  
move to advance dated September  
9th. I had a chapter  
of the Cheat River jungles about  
the bridge and thereby prevented  
them from having a pitched battle at  
Elkwater. These troops were from  
the night time to the  
camp at Cheat Summit  
where they came straggling  
and were very tired.  
The evidence that  
the Cheatwater affir, I have  
something more about that  
on. They attempted to go  
into the wilderness on the night  
of September. None of  
the sentinels of the federal  
the mountain knew that any  
movement was taking place.  
Inclusive that they did not  
know of the pike. And

fall on the 12th, that he was in a  
precarious position. The wagon train  
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of the enemy. The wagon train had  
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the second night in bad weather and  
there was no way to form a column  
force out of them. In the morning  
these Indiana boys had been  
loafing there all summer and proba-  
bly knew every trail up there by its  
name, were ready to lorry the  
strangers out of there, and at break-  
fast of day, on Friday, the Thirteenth,  
they commenced to hunt the con-  
federates appeared on the pike about  
a mile east of the summit, and sur-  
rounded a private and a lieutenant  
and a private of the federals were

Learning that a whip chase was  
underway to the west and that the  
confederates were towards the Greenbrier River, with the  
Indiana boys and them, the com-  
mander of the 6th West Virginia  
companies of soldiers east over the  
pike and had them move the Great  
River bridge, and a battle was  
fought on that river about two miles  
above Cheat Summit where the Cheat Mountain Club  
now stands,  
The 8th West Virginia reports are mis-  
leading as to this encounter, but the fed-  
eral reports are very correct. I  
am sure that all the regiment's both  
from Valley Mountain and from  
Cheatwater have been rounded up  
and were being driven toward the  
Greenbrier, and that when they were  
stopped by three hundred men at  
some point on the river near the  
Cheatwater bridge, that the confederates

water fort. They did not give up  
waiting no doubt for the flanking  
army that never came, but the feder-  
als had a rifled gun that shot a ten  
pound ball that they ran out about  
three quarters of a mile, and fired a  
... rounds at the confederates who  
... drew a short about the  
confederate army lay all day on  
mouth of Elkwater creek all day on  
the 13th, and on the 14th they were  
still there. Reynolds confederate  
for the 14th that another confederate  
force was chased by the Summit  
camp. And that on the 15th there  
was another confederate army on top  
of Cheat on the pike that was driven  
back.  
Anyway in the afternoon of the  
14th the confederates Mountain and  
their camp on Valley Mountain. So Lee's orders  
to advance dated September 9, 1861.  
were in force until September 14  
when Lee called them back and said  
goodby.

### Farm For Sale

I will sell or rent 104 acres of land  
two miles from Durbin, one mile to  
class A road, one half mile to post-  
office, a road over one half of  
land improved in JOUDI (cheese-  
orchard. Farm well & grad. Suja-  
ble for farming or well suited for  
grazing purposes. Adjoining govern-  
ment land. If interested write  
Frank Houchins  
Elkins, W. Va.

---

### For Sale

Silver hull buckwheat cleaned  
ready for drilling  
Geigers mill.  
Grey Gelger

### FIDUCIARY NOTICE

The final settlement of the admin-  
istration accounts of A. P. Edgar,  
Administrator of the estate of R. L.  
Wank, deceased of Pocahontas  
county, West Virginia, are  
before the undersigned Commissioner  
of Accounts for adjustment and dis-  
tribution. All persons interested  
will please take notice.  
T. S. Neel, Com.

... the confederate army  
the west of the encampment  
captured. The number of  
soldiers on the pike west  
rear of the confederate

# MOB. ]1 to Loan to Farmers

back to Camp Bartow. Kimball says that the result of the panic in the confederate ranks was that the woods were literally covered with the baggage, coats, haversacks, and other articles abandoned by the enemy.

Not if this is true, it is not to be wondered that Lee looked in vain for his proud regiments to come stepping up the broad fields of Tygart's Valley, with flags flying, and drums beating, to take the federalists in the rear, while he marched his victorious legions down the valley to storm the federal works and take West Virginia into the confederacy.

It is no wonder that Col. John A. Washington rode down by the mouth of Elkwater with a squad of men to get around the bend so that he could see the confederate columns advancing up the river to support the attack. And that not so long such an army that he should have ventured near and nearer the fortification so that he could make a thorough search, until so close that he was shot and killed.

Col. Rust was ordered out of Cheat mountain with his command to get to Barnow as soon as he could and stop a dispatch to General Loring by the "near way", Loring was no doubt that day at Valley Mountain. "Get Mr. Arbogast to take the dispatch if possible." Probably I...

the town of Durbin. He is described as the postmaster.

In the meantime on Friday, the Thirteenth, Lee's army edged down the stream from Valley Head, to a point as low down as the mouth of Elkwater some miles above the Elkwater fort. They did not give battle, waiting no doubt for the flanking army that never came, but the federalists had a rifled gun that shot a ten pound ball that they ran out about three quarters of a mile, and fired a few rounds at the confederates who withdrew a short distance. That confederate army lay about the

that day at Valley Head, Mr. Arbogast to take the site of possible." Probably on the site of whose plantation was described as the postmaster.

In the meantime on Friday, the Thirteenth, Lee's army edged down the stream from Valley Head, to a point as low down as the mouth of Elkwater some miles above the Elkwater fork. They did not give battle waiting no doubt for the feder- army that never came, but the feder- als had a rifled gun that shot a ten pound ball that they ran out about three quarters of a mile and fired a few rounds at the distance. That with a short distance. That confederate army lay about the mouth of Elkwater creek all day on the 13th, and on the 14th they were still there. Beynolds said that on the 14th that another confederate force was chased by the Summit camp. And that on the 15th there was another confederate army on top of Cheat on the bike that was driven back.

Anyway in the afternoon of the 14th the confederates went back to their camp on Valley Mountain and Middle Mountain. So Lee's orders to advance dated September 9, 1886, were in force until September 14, when Lee called them back and said goodby.

### Farm For Sale

I will sell or rent 104 acres of land two miles from New River, one mile from class A road, one half mile to post office or railroad. Quality of soil is good. Improved pasture, young chestnut timber. Has large rapids, suitable for farming. Well situated for grazing purposes. Adjoining government land. If interested write to Elkins, W. Va.

### For Sale

Silver hull buckwheat cleaned ready for drilling. 50 per bu. at Geigers mill. Grey Geiger